City of Greenfield, Massachusetts

Sustainable Greenfield Implementation Committee (SGIC) Town Hall, 2nd Floor Meeting Room

Minutes Thursday, 3/28/2019, 5:00-6:30pm

Attending: Nancy Hazard, Carole Collins, George Touloumtzis, Jay Lord, Mike Pattavina, Tara Kurkland, Tim Dolan

Absent: MJ Adams, Marlo Warner **Guest**: Roxann Wedegartner

Introductions & Updates

Members noted significant events or issues pertaining to the SGIC mission from the past month. George – Looking for standing yield signs in crosswalks to be put up. Carole – there are plans to upgrade interior lighting at police station to LEDs, also applied for grant for new heating system at Police station. Nancy – Library approved! Pollinator corridor campaign underway with Greening Greenfield. Mike –The Franklin County Coalition for Progressive Revolution is holding municipal socialism workshops this weekend. Tim – Library approved! Greenfield Downtown Neighborhood Association created, next meeting is 23rd at Hawks and Reed Greenspace. Jay – Just Roots 30 year lease finalized, ribbon cutting for new solar installation. Tara – 100 Who Care Franklin County just had meeting, an event where participants pool resources to support a local non-profit.

<u>Approval of February Minutes</u> – George moved to approve the minutes from the February 28th meeting, Carole seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

SGIC Community Gatherings & Meetings- There is a regular meeting planned for April; Creative economy event is scheduled for May; Waste Management event scheduled for June. A sign-up sheet went around to determine who might be available for July and August SGIC meetings. There was discussion on committee membership and the process involved when a term expires. Upon term expiration a letter should be sent from the Mayor's office to the member to confirm their interest in continued membership. The Council then approves all appointments. Carole will look into process to get more details. It was discovered that Mike P. was appointed into a 3-year at-large position, rather than the 1-year student representative position, so the student position is still vacant. Nancy is working with Mark Smith to have Hannah Rechtschaffen recommendeded by the Mayor. There has been no action to date. There was agreement that the committee listing on the web should be updated to reflect current members and the expiration of their terms.

<u>Waste management event</u> – Mike reported that Marlo Warner was not available to do a Commmunity Gathering untul June or July. Mike asked for help to plan this event, specifically another person to attend meetings etc. to make sure information is relayed properly. Carole had concerns on the format/process for this event, commenting that the original intention for these meetings was to have department heads informally discuss what they are working on, to inform the public and get feedback. She suggested it would be better for the department head to determine the agenda, and give an informal update rather than have the organizer direct what should be discussed, and Jay agreed. It was confirmed that the original vision for these events was to keep people informed, encourage feedback, and have an conversation on plans that are being implemented and visioning for the future. Due to Marlo's schedule and uncertainty around this, Nancy recommended not doing waste management until we can meet with Marlo again. instead have regular meeting in April, and use the extra time to assess what will work best for the Waste Management event. She will check with MJ as to whether May or June is preferred for the Creative Economy event.

<u>Debrief: Joint meeting with Planning Board RE Green Infrastructure</u>- There was discussion on how the joint meeting process went during the last meeting. It was agreed the content was interesting and valuable, but could have been longer and gone deeper. There was interest in a greater focus on how we can push for implementation, hear from the Planning Board on how implementation is accomplished through zoning changes, etc, and specifically how the SGIC can be helpful to move toward implementation. There was also interest in allowing more time for dialogue to better understand the challenges with implementation, and explore how issues are connected e.g. stormwater and waste

management. All agreed they would like more joint meetings with Planning Board specifically to talk about zoning and how the SGIC and the Master Plan can guide and promote zoning initiatives.

<u>SGIC Website</u> – The content of the website was assessed. Most agreed dates should be added to the progress links and implementation tables could be posted. There was also interest in including information on the outcome of the public events. Agreed: comments from the evaluations will be added. ACTION: Carole, George and Nancy will work to put some of these comments together to be posted.

Building codes - Municipalities have an opportunity to provide input into future building codes through a vote on the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). Municipalities of less than 50,000 residents can have four votes in this process. Massachusetts Climate Action Network (MCAN) is encouraging each town to use its 4 votes to support a net zero building code. They suggest it is possible for any town official/ committee member to register and vote. Carole asked for the Mayor's approval to move forward with registering and voting in this process. The Mayor did not approve the request, stating he supports these types of building codes, but that the City is not interested in prescribing additional regulations, and instead can promote these ideas locally by example. There is uncertainty as to who is qualified to vote, especially when the Mayor has chosen not to participate. MCAN believes that eligibility is determined only by having an official role in town. A decision needs to be made at this meeting because if Greenfield wishes to vote, someone must register by tomorrow – Friday March 29th. A group of four will then be formed that will vote later in the fall. One option would be to register now, but decide whether or not to vote later. George: doesn't believe we should go against the guidance from the Mayor. We shouldn't harm the standing and validity of committee by directly opposing the Mayor on something that may have little impact. Nancy feels it is important to take this opportunity to have a voice in the next energy code. Motion - Nancy made a motion that the committee support her registration with IECC, thus enabling Greenfield to submit 4 votes on the 2021 IECC energy code, and that the committee will discuss at a later date if or how those votes will be made. Tim seconded.

Tim, Tara, Nancy, Mike voted in favor Jay, George, Carole were opposed Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned 6:30pm

Next Meeting: April 25, 5pm